MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Tuskegee Baptist Association

HELD WITH THE

LOACHAPOKA CHURCH,

October 12th to 14th, 1897.

	Moderator	
C. W. ASHCRAFT	Clerk	Opelika, Ala.
	Treasurer	

OPELIKA, ALA.,
Post Publishing Co., Printers and Publishers.
1807.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

ELD. G. S ANDERSON	Auburn, Ala.
" G E. BREWER	Opelika, Ala.
" C. W. BUCK	
" JOHN J. CLOUD	Auburn, Ala.
" J. B. CLEMENTS	Alliance, Ala.
" W.G. GREGORY	Gold Dust, Ala.
" S. B. GRIMES	Notasulga, Ala.
" SYDNEY J. CATTS	Tuskegee, Ala.
	Tuskegee, Ala.
" F. T. HUDSON	Auburn, Ala.
" Z. D. ROBY	Opelika, Ala.
" W. R. ADAMS	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

W. E. Hudmon, Sydney J. Catts, J. M. Love, F. E. Haynie. John J. Cloud, J. C. Condon,

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1. Opening services.
- 2. Read the Letters from the Churches and enroll Delegates.
- 3. Invite Ministers of our Order to seats with us.
- 4. Organize by electing Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.
- 5. Call for petitionary Letters.
- 6. Receive Correspondents from Sister Associations.
- 7. Appoint Committees on Preaching, Documents and State of Religion, Home and Foreign Missions, Sunday-Schools, Education, Tem perance, Deceased Ministers, State Missions and Colportage, and Orphans' Home.
- 8. Appoint Correspondents to Sister Associations.
- 9. Appoint Delegates to State Convention.
- 10. Hear report of Executive Committee.
- 11. Hear report of any other Committee appointed last Session.
- 12. Elect the Executive Committee.
- 13. Hear Reports from the several Committees appointed this Session.
- 14. Hear Treasurer's Report.
- 15. Determine where the next Session of the Association will be held.
- 16. Arrange for Printing Minutes and Distribution.
- 17. Miscellaneous Business.
- 18. Closing Exercises.

Mext Session convenes with Salem Church, Macon County Tuesday before the third Sunday in October, 1898.

MINUTES ..

Loachapoka Baptist Church, Loachapoka, Ala., Oct. 12, 1897.

The Fifty-Second Annual Session of the Tuskegee Baptist Association convened with the Loachapoka Baptist church, at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, October 12, 1897.

Devotional exercises were held by Dr. W. E. Lloyd.

The moderator appointed Brethren J. E. Gregory and W. A. Thornton to collect church letters from delegates.

Rev. G. A. Hornady and Brother T. J. Carlisle were appointed to read the letters. The reading showed the following had been elected delegates from the several churches in the Association.

Auburn—W. B. Frazer, T. H. Winston, L. L. Cooper, James Little, J. F. Duggar; alternates, John Binford, J. E. Heard, James D. Foster, Welborn Jones.

Concord (Lee County)—W. M. Eiland, A. W. Aldridge. Concord (Macon County)—J. W. Copland, J. B. Myhand.

County Line-S. B. Fears, S. L. Adams.

Cubahatchie—W. T. B. Lynch, Tolbert Letcher, Joe C. Oswalt, W. L. Allen, J. R. Simmons; alternates, Reid Smith, Ulpain Lynch.

Elam (Macon County)—G. A. Huguléy, P. L. Zellars. D. O. Thomas.

Elam (Tallapoosa County)—W. G. Gregory, M. E. Parker. J. E Gregory, G. B. Stearns.

LaPlace-E. M. Swearengen, Sr., R. G. Williams.

Liberty-W. R. W. Key, James Uldric, Willie Sanders, T. N. Johnston.

Loachapoka—F. E. Haynie, J. L. Wise, W. J. Wooten; alternates, F. W. Rea, J. T. Carlisle.

Notasulga—Rev. George E. Brewer, D. A. Lanier, Rev. S. R. Grimes, J. D. Barron, W. T. Duke; alternates, Jeff Day, J. P. Waller.

Opelika—Dr. Z. D. Røby, W. E. Hudmon, E. Brewer, J. C. Condon, G. W. Shealy, J. T. Brooks, G. A. Taylor, C. W. Ashcraft. Pleasant Grove—B. F. Stripling, Reuben Lawson, D. P.

Meadows

Pleasant Hill-A. J. Jackson, R. M. Youngblood.

Rocky Mount-W. H. Phipps, J. G. Fowler, W. D. Malloy.

Salem (Lee County)—Dr. J. M. Lowe, W. M. Adams, W. A. Thornton.

Salem (Macon County)—J. S. Bryant, J. L. Jackson, W. R. Owsley, J. H. Williams.

Shiloh-T. J. Wade, John Parish, J. T. Herring, W. M. Jenkins.

Society Hill-A. H. Rutherford.

Tuskegee—Rev. S. J. Catts, Rev. C. W. Hare, M. L. Swanson, W. D. Fonville, G. W. Griffin, J. F. Dismukes.

Union Grove—S. H. Jarrell, Monroe Green, H. S. Smith; alternates, W. W. McCollum, W. D. Newman, J. F. Whitman.

Delegates having been enrolled, the old officers were reelected, as follows: Eld Z. D. Roby, Moderator; C. W. Ashcraft, Clerk; E. Brewer, Treasurer.

The delegates from the Loachapoka church and Eld. S. R. Grimes were appointed committee on Preaching.

Ministers from other associations were invited to seats with us.

A short address of welcome was delivered by Professor T. J. Carlisle, responded to by the Moderator.

Correspondents from other associations were called for and the following responded:

East Liberty—Dr. W. E. Lloyd, Eld. G. A. Hornady, John Jester, R. N. Bottsford, N. G. Brazell, Eld. W. T. Foster.

Tallapoosa River-J. P. Johnson.

Montgomery – J. G. Harris, representing The Alabama Baptist, and G. G. Miles.

Representatives were appointed to other bodies as follows:

East Liberty Association—T. J. Carlisle, S. B. Fears, Dr. Z. Roby, W. M. Adams.

Centennial—W. T. B. Lynch.

State Convention—J. A. Wallace, W. G. Gregory, Dr. Z. D. Roby, C. W. Ashcraft.

Southern Baptist Convention-Dr. Z. D. Roby.

By unanimous vote of the Association Dr. W. E. Lloyd and Eld, G. A. Hornady were elected life members of the association.

The report of the Executive Committee was read by its chairman, W. E. Hudmon, and is as follows:

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your committee beg leave to submit the following: We agreed with

Rev. F. T. Hudson, the colporter evangelist for associational year 1895, to continue him one month just after the close of last session of the association, to complete some unfinished book business for said month's service. We agreed to pay him out of associational funds \$25.00, which amount is now unpaid.

We recommend that this claim be first paid out of any funds sent up

by the churches for associational missions.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. HUDMON, Chm. Ex. Com.

We herewith submit the report of Rev. F. T. Hudson, colporter evangelist:

Report of Colporter evangelist now in the Tuskegee Association from October 17, to December 10, 1896.

Days of service rendered	41
Number of miles traveled about	500
Number of families visited about	500
Sermons preached	8
Number of books sold	
Value of books sold\$1	05.15
Received by letter	

Respectfully submitted, F. T. Hudson, Colporter and Evangelist of the Tuskegee Baptist Association.

The report was spoken to by Brethren W. E. Hudmon, W. G. Gregory and S. R. Grimes, after which it was adopted.

On motion of Eld. W. G. Gregory the same Executive Committee was elected for the ensuing year, as follows: W. E. Hudmon, F. E. Haynie, Sidney J. Catts, John J. Cloud, J. M. Love, J. C. Condon.

Committee on Preaching announced that in the absence of Eld. R. T. Ayres, Eld. G. A. Hornady would preach the introductory sermon at 7:30 o'clock tonight.

At 12 o'clock adjournment was taken till 2 o'clock p. m., and a bountiful dinner was served at the church.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Eld. W. T. Foster.

Roll of delegates was called and corrected.

The Moderator appointed the following Standing Committees to prepare reports for the next session, with the request that if the members of the committees cannot be present at the next session they will prepare their reports and send them:

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Education-Rev. J. J. Cloud, Prof. Duggar, Prof. Mell,

Prof. Duncan, Prof. McKisick,

HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS—Rev. S. J. Catts, Prof. Fonville, M. L. Swanson, T. Y. Conner, George Wright.

STATE MISSIONS AND COLPORTAGE—Dr. J. M. Love, W. A. Thornton, Rev. Hugh Wallace, W. M. Adams, S. W. Whitman.

TEMPERANCE—Rev. W. G. Gregory, A. M. Cameron, Rev. S. R. Grimes, M. E. Parker, J. H. Williams.

DECEASED MINISTERS—W. E. Hudmon, E. M. Swearengen, T. J. Carlisle.

DOCUMENTS AND STATE OF RELIGION—J. L. Wise, F. E. Haynie, Nat Macon, T. J. Carlisle, John Zellars.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—W. T. B. Lynch, Dr. F. M. Letcher, E. M. Swearengen, Sr., J. C. Pinkston, Nathan Robertson, Rev. F. T. Hudson.

ORPHANS' HOME—B. F. Stripling, G. W. Meadows, Monroe Green, James Whitman, D. P. Meadows.

Reports on Missions were read.

HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Home and Foreign Missions beg leave to submit the following report:

We believe that there is no work of such paramount importance as the work that our Home Board is designed to do. For it is the bed-rock upon which our other two boards (State and Foreign) are largely dependent for life. Hence the work of Home Missions demands that we put forth persistent effort for Home Missions, for if this is done it will, doubtless, intensify and increase the interest in State and Foreign Missions. Therefore, if there could be no other reasons assigned we should contribute liberally to Home Missions. It is a fact, that we note with profound regret, that our Association is doing very little for Home Missions, compared to the demand and our ability. Yet we feel glad that we can say we are making some progress; and as our people realize more forcibly the necessity for said work they will, of course, be more systematic and liberal contributors to Home Missions.

Our work in foreign lands has had many, many difficulties and trials but God has wonderfully blessed and prospered it notwithstanding the obstacles that have been in the way. Then let us thank God and take courage.

We believe that Foreign Missions is, however, the outgrowth and result of Home Missions. For when Christ sets up His abode in the heart of an individual that person at once becomes a missionary in the full sense of the term, and his ardor and devotion is not limited by geographical lines, but reaches out and takes in the whole world. We can assert, emphatically, that the true mission spirit knows no bounds, counts no cost, fears no dangers and regards the mandate of the Master, "Go ye

into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

In conclusion we most seriously and earnestly call upon our pastors, men whom God has honored and called out from the world to lead and teach, to lovingly and faithfully obey the parting command of the great Teacher who said "Teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." Then comes the precious promise to all that will do this; "I am with you alway even unto the end of the world." The great difficulty with our churches, we fear, today, is on account of their former training, or we might more accurately say, to no training at all.

Dear pastors and teachers, will you not instruct your churches and train the members to give according to the plain teachings in God's word? God help you so to do.

Respectfully submitted,

W. R. ADAMS, Chairman.

STATE MISSIONS AND COLPORTAGE.

Your Committee on State Missions beg leave to report that the State Board of Missions is located at Montgomery. Ala., of which Elder J. L. Thompson is president, Elder W. C. Bledsoe is corresponding Secretary, and J. B. Collier is clerk and store keeper.

This Board is the agent of the organized Baptists of Alabama for their work in missions, having charge of such as is done within the State. It is also the general agent for gathering funds for the Home and Foreign Boards, for our colleges, the Orphan's Home, and other denominational enterprises.

The Orphan's Home has a separate management under the charge of trustees with Elder J. W. Stewart as financial agent. Ministerial Education, at the last session of the State Convention, was again made a separate work, and placed under charge of a board located at East Lake, with Elder W. A. Hobson as chairman. But the State Board receives and transmits funds for both these without charge.

The book work of the Board has also undergone a change, by transferring the stock of books, stationary, etc., to J. B. Collier on consignment he receiving ten per cent. on the sales of the same. It is hoped by this arrangement to relieve the Board of its indebtedness incurred by its book business in the course of a few years.

The work of the Board is doing well when the money stringency of the year is taken into consideration. Funds, however, have been sorely needed several times in the year to enable it to meet its obligations. There is need of funds to enable the Board to go to the Convention out of debt. Some of our best workers may be lost from their fields if their salaries are not more promptly paid. This the Board cannot do unless the churches raise funds at different times during the year, instead of sending their contributions only at the meeting of the associations. By contributing all through the year more will be raised, and more easily to the contributors than by the once a year plan.

Your committee commend the officers of the Board for their prompt response to all matters of business submitted to them, and for their uniform courtesy.

WORK DONE.—The total receipts by the Board for last conventional year was \$21.745.70 for all purposes, which was above the average for past years, not excepting the Centennial year. In addition to the above amount the missionaries of the Board raised \$3,321.75 for church building. The Ladies Societies of Alabama reported for the year, as contributed by them, exclusive mainly of the above, \$7,370.44. This shows what can be done by littles regularly contributed, for these societies, which raised one third as much as all that passed through the Board, are composed of only a small proportion of our sisters.

Last year the Board had in its employ 23 workers, two of whom were evangelists among the whites, A. E. Burns in North Alabama and S. O. Y. Ray in South Alabama. There were twelve missionary pastors, two associational missionaries, four missionary colporters, and three colored evangelists among the negroes, who are jointly supported by the State and Home Boards, the Home Missionary Society, and the Negro Baptist Convention of the state. These are doing a fine work among the negroes, for they are able, pious, and consecrated men. They are Elders McAlpine, Booth and Pollard.

The work done as represented by figures was:

1 , 3	
Days of service 4	1,120
Sermons preached 2 o88 Addresses	828
Churches constituted 3 · Baptisms	253
Baptisms in connection 238 Received by letter	255
Restored 12 Sunday-schools organized	12
Ladies' Societies 7 Prayer-meetings organized	12
Prayer-meetings held 548 Churches and stations visited	787

In addition, a number of subscribers were obtained to denominational periodicals, Bibles and Testaments sold and donated, several houses of worship were built and aided, and some thousands of dollars collected for same.

In the book department the resources on hand at the beginning of the year were in value, \$2,088.28. Sales of department, \$4,759.10. Expenses, \$372.51. Worth of stock at close \$2,226.

CHANGES.—The work of the board is considerably changed for the present year, as the larger part of it now is in the direction of evangelism, by direction of the Convention at its last session. Missionary pastors are still helped in Montgomery, Selma, Greensboro, and some other points. The same three able negro evangelists are continued. There are now among the whites as evangelists, Burns in North Alabama, Sandlin in Northwest, Dickinson about Birmingham Anderson in East, Alabama, Preston in Southeast, and Parker in Southwest. These brethren are all doing fine work, and such if continued will tell for good in the

future: Anderson has specially devoted much of his effort in ministerial institute work.

We are glad to be able to make so favorable a report, and to say that the Board closed the last year practically out of debt, and the hope is strong that it will in like manner close this year. But it ought to be so sustained that it would not get in debt.

Suffer your committee to recommend that the churches and pastors take collections from time to time, monthly if practicable, and forward at once to our Boards, and thus enable them to avoid debts.

Again, we would recommend that there be a discontinuance of deducting ten per cent. from the funds sent for the Home and Foreign Boards and adding that amount to the funds of the State Board. Some of our sister states act thus toward these two Boards, and do well.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO, E. BREWER, Chairman.

These were discussed by Dr. J. M. Love, Dr. W. E. Loyd, Elders W. T. Foster, G. A. Hornady.

Mrs. Clara Ansley representing the Orphans' Home was introduced to the Association.

The meeting adjourned to meet at 7:30 p. m., at which time Eld. G. A. Hornady preached the introductory sermon to a well filled house.

Committee on preaching announced that Dr. W. E. Lloyd would preach the Missionary Sermon at 11 o'clock Wednesday, Elder Geo. E. Brewer being absent on account of serious illness.

SECOND DAY-MORNING SESSION.

Opening exercises conducted by Rev. C. W. Hare.

The moderator, Dr. Z. D. Roby, asked to make a statement in which he said that owing to his feeble condition he would ask the Association to allow him to name some member of the body to preside in his stead. Motion was carried unanimously to give such permission.

The moderator called W. T. B. Lynch to the chair.

Elder G. A. Hornady addressed the assembly making very touching reference to Dr. Roby as a minister, relating how his whole life and energy and means had been given to the cause of Christ. He started a subscription for the benefit of Dr. Roby which reached \$45.70. The treasurer was directed to turn the amount over to Dr. Roby.

Discussion of reports on Missions was resumed and Elders G. A. Hornady and W. R. Adams and G. G. Myles addressed the as sociation.

The time for 11 o'clock preaching having arrived Dr. W. E. Lloyd preached a very able Missionary Sermon, after which the regular collection for Missions was taken amounting to \$9.98.

Adjourned for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The association reassembled at 2 o'clock.

On motion of Dr. Roby it was decided to hold night session at 7 o'clock tonight and adjourn.

By motion the Executive committee was instructed to employ a colporter and the reports on Missions were adopted.

The report on the Orphans' Home was then read as follows: REPORT ON ORPHANS' HOME.

Your committee on the Orphanage beg to report as follows:

The home is now nearing the close of its fifth year. It consists of eighty acres of land lying on Main street, Evergreen. It is divided as follows: Thirty acres in cultivation, thirty in pastures, twenty-five in woods on which the boys are taught to do farm work. Its original building was a ten-room brick building and three tenant houses, and has now in construction a new building of eleven more rooms, for which money is greatly needed.

There has been received in the home seventy children; thirty-three boys and thirty-seven girls. Its present family consists of seventeen boys and twenty-one girls, the rest having homes found for them. All old enough, attend Southwest Alabama Agricultural School, at a very small cost to the management. All attend church and Sabbath school. We find from the report of the financial secretary that the average cost per head is about \$6.00. In comparing it with similar institutions, it speaks in high terms of the present management along the line of economy; it appeals to all for help and a philanthropic people should systematically contribute to the improvement and maintenance of this home and property. We also venture a suggestion, that with the present property we should make it also a home for the indigent ministry which we feel sure that we, as a denomination, justly owe to our aged brethren.

W. G. GREGORY, Chairman.

The chairman of the committee spoke on the report after which, by vote of the body, Mrs. Clara Ansley, matron at the orphanage, spoke of the Home, giving much valuable information concerning it. Brethren Carlisle, Roby, Hornady and Swearengen also spoke on the report and it was adopted. By motion of Elder S. R. Grimes the collection taken at the morning service was ordered paid over to Sister Ansley for the Orphanage.

Report of Committee on Education was submitted by Profi

T. J. Carlisle and discussed by several brethren. It was adopted as follows:

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

We, your Committee on education, beg leave to submit the following: It is too late in this age of progress to emphasize the importance of education, for the rapid advancement of science has long since developed and demonstrated that education has in all ages been the advance agent and bed-rock of civilization and religion, building cities in wildernesses, converting heathens into christians, transforming darkness into light, and substituting intelligence and knowledge for ignorance and superstition.

These facts being matters of history and universally acknowledged to be true augments but intensify the responsibilities that rest upon us to take up the work from the hands of a self-sacrificing noble ancestry and strive to improve upon the achievements of our fathers. They erected and constituted churches, they reared and endowed colleges, leaving, us in charge, hoping that we will not be faithless to the trust.

We have in the bounds of the Tuskegee Association as in the state, almost every character of educational institutions in the way of common schools, high schools, colleges. We have denominational colleges and schools. This we believe is right and proper and we commend every denomination for establishing and sustaining colleges under the auspices and management of their "espective denominations. Therefore we say to every Methodist, Presbyterian and all other denominations as well as Baptists, patronize first, your own schools and colleges and do everything in your power to make them a success. That is right, it is praiseworthy, and we assert that no liberal, fair minded christian would say otherwise.

We regret to report that our Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., is passing through a crucial period and should be the subject of earnest prayer by every true and faithful Baptist.

Now as Baptists we have the Howard college for boys, and the Judson for girls. The former has reduced its debt within the past two years from forty to twenty thousand dollars and the rate of interest from to five per cent.

The latter is out of debt. Both institutions have able and experienced faculties and the matriculation is astonishingly good considering the many disadvantages confronting them. We consider these institutions denominational jewels of which we are proud.

The Methodist also have like institutions of high order for their boys and girls: the Southern University at Greensboro and Female College at Tuskegee, these are institutions of which they may well be proud.

These are old established colleges with their alumni constituting a large per centage of the population of the state who are strong advocates of their Alma Maters and bound by many ties, aside from denominational pride.

Now with all these promptings, incentives and agencies it is an almost death struggle to keep up these institutions to the point of respectability. This is not due to financial pressure only, but to the unequal advantages in competition.

This competition comes from the State institutions at Tuscaloosa and Auburn supported almost entirely by contributions from the State of Alabama and the general government, equipped with all the means and appliances for illustrating and demonstrating everything taught. Now with all these advantages and facilities, notwithstanding the universal financial pressure is it at all astonishing that these should grow stronger each year? Now if our denominational colleges are to be swallowed up and supplanted by these state schools, is it not wise, right and prudent that each denomination should be fairly represented upon Boards of Trustees and in the faculties. It is claimed and the law contemplates and requires that all state schools shall be non-sectarian.

Respectfully submitted,

T. J. CARLISLE, Chairman.

The treasurer asked permission to submit his report at this point and his request was granted. It follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

TO THE TUSKEGE	EE BAPTIST	Association;
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Your Treasurer begs leave to submit the following as his report:

" collected since last report State Missions
Associational Missions
T-1-1
Total \$227 91
By amt. paid R. J. Willingham
" W. C. Bledsoe 30 71
" Jno, W. Stewart 26 06
" C. W. Ashcraft for Minutes 35 80
" I. T. Tichenor 41 12
" W. C. Bledsoe 4 60
" D. B. Gray 9 50
" F. T. Hudson
To balance on hand
To cash during this session 318 38
Total\$326 14
Total vouchers received this session\$645 65

NIGHT SESSION.

Report on Sunday schools was submitted by Elder J. J. Cloud as follows:

REPORT ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-school is an organization in the church, where the chil-

dren, the young people, and the old, assemble every Sunday to study and teach the word of God. The children are taught the plain and simple truths of the gospel which lead to Christ and holiness of life. The young people are endoctrinated, built up, and strengthened, in the great doctrines and work of the Master. And the old people grow in grace and abound in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is the great school of Christ, in which his saving and working principles are instilled into the minds and hearts of old and young. Such a work is of the greatest importance, and should not be lightly considered by our churches. We do most sincerely recommend our Southern Convention literature.

Respectfully submitted,

J. J. CLOUD, Chairman,

The report was discussed by the chairman and Prof. J F. Duggar, Dr. J. M. Love, Maj. J. G. Harris, W. E. Hudmon, and John Bryant and then adopted.

Report by Committee on Temperance was made as follows:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

From a careful consideration of the condition of our churches we conclude that there is a more healthy condition among the churches on this subject. Few, if any, churches will now willingly retain in their membership men of known intemperate habits. All of our preachers appear to be faithful in denouncing the evils of the liquor traffic and the sin of indulgence in strong drink. But your committee urge upon the association the necessity for continuance of the battle against the use of rum in all its forms. Respectfully submitted.

C. W. HARE, Chairman.

Report adopted.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

Your committee beg to make the following report:

After due enquiry we are glad, and rejoice that the Lord has been kind and merciful in sparing the ministry of this association and that none of them have fallen by death during this associational year.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. HUDMON, Chairman,

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS.

Fifth Sunday in October, with Concord church, Macon county.

Fifth Sunday in January with Cubahatchie church.

Fifth Sunday in May with Shiloh church.

Fifth Sunday in July with Rocky Mount church.

Salem church Macon county being the only church asking for

the next session of the body that church was selected as the next place of meeting.

TO PREACH NEXT SESSION.

THE INTRODUCTORY SERMON—Elder J. J. Cloud. THE MISSIONARY SERMON—Elder G. S. Anderson.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

By W. M. Adams-

RESOLVED, That the Association and visitors tender to the pastor and members of the church at Loachapoka our hearty thanks, and also to the citizens of the community for their liberal hospitality and care of the Association and visitors during the meeting.

The Treasurer was ordered to pay over the Minute Fund to the Clerk and he was directed to have printed four hundred copies of the minutes and distribute them.

Motion was made and carried to adjourn and adjournment was taken in the usual manner.

The session was unusually interesting throughout and the utmost good feeling prevailed

FINANCIAL TABLE OF TUSKEGEE ASSOCIATION.

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CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This body shall be called the TUSKEGEE BAPTIST AS-SOCIATION, composed of messengers chosen from the different churches constituting it, holding annual sessions at such times and places as it may select,

ART. 2. Believing that churches are independent religious bodies, owing allegiance only to Christ, this Association claims no right to inter-

fere authoritatively with their internal concerns.

ART. 3. The Association shall elect from its membership, at each annual session, by ballot, a moderator, clerk, treasurer and an executive committee, composed of five brethren, who shall hold their offices until their successors are chosen.

ART. 4. The moderator shall preside over the body, appoint all committees, unless otherwise instructed, and decide all points of order by the rules in Mell's Parliamentary Practice, subject to an appeal to the

ART, 5. The clerk shall keep a record of the proceedings, direct the printing and distribution of the Minutes, and perform such other duties

as belong to his office.

ART. 6. The treasurer shall take charge of the money and general property of the Association; report in writing at each annual session, the condition of the finances, exhibiting vouchers for all sums paid out; he shall also provide himself with blank receipts, to be filled and handed to the delegates from the several churches respectively, who may bring up tunds, and at the expiration of his term, deliver to his successor the property of the Association in hand.

ART. 7. The advisory committee may fill vacancies occuring in its membership, and shall, under the direction of the Association, manage

its business during its adjournment.

ART. 8. At each session, committees of three shall be appointed to report, in writing, the following subjects: Preaching, Documents, Sunday-schools, Missions, Deceased Ministers, Education and Temperance.

ART. 9. Churches wishing to become members of this body, must petition by letter or messengers, and if found to be scriptural in doctrine and practice, be received to fellowship by vote of the Association, and welcomed by the moderator.

ART. 10. Churches wishing to change their membership, may petition by letter or messenger, and if in fellowship with the body, be dismissed in due form. Any infringement of the laws of this Association, or departure from the faith and practice of the Scriptures by a church, will be a cause of complaint against such church, and will subject it to

the discipline of the body.

ART. 11. Messengers, before being enrolled as members, must present evidence of their appointment, giving also the number of the membership of their church, the number received during the past year by baptism, letter and restoration, the number dismissed, expelled and dead, with an account of all the money given to the support of the gospel and general benevolence, the condition of the Sunday-school, with statistics, prayer meetings and other good works engaged in by their churches.

ART. 12. Each church shall be entitled to two messengers; when the membership is fifty, to three, and one for every additional twenty-five,

or fractional part thereof.

ART. 13. Amendments to the Constitution may be made by a vote

of two thirds of the members present.

ART. 14. The Minutes of the Association must be read, approved and signed by the moderator and clerk before final adjournment.

. ARTICLES OF FAITH.

- We be the in the existence of one only living God, and that He has made. Himself known to His people under the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, the same in essence and every Divine perfection.
- 2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.
- 3. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election; that God chose in Christ Jesus from before the foundation of the world to save them that believe, that they should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestinated them unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his grace.
 - 4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.
- 5. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and ability.
- 6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.
- 7. We believe that God's elect shall be called regenerated, sanctified, by the Holy Ghost.
- 8. We believe that nothing can separate true believers from the love of God, but that they will be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation, ready to be revealed in the last time.
- 9. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the Church of Christ; that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances; and that immersion only is baptism.
 - 10. We believe in the resurrection and the general judgment,
- 11. We believe the punishment of the wicked will be eternal, and the joy of the righteous will be everlasting.
- 12. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances only such as are called of God, as was Aaron, and come unto the imposition of hands by a presbytery, and in fellowship with the church of which he is a member.